



Durweston CE VA Primary School

Durweston, Blandford Forum, Dorset

DT11 0QA

Tel: 01258 452277

Email: office@durweston.dorset.sch.uk

Website: www.durweston.dorset.sch.uk

Acting Head teacher: Nicola Brooke



1st December 2017

NEWSLETTER

PL12 17/18

Dear Parents,

I am pleased to be able to tell you that Mrs Wesley-Barker has recently been in touch with the school and wished us the best for the future. I was equally pleased to be able to tell her that our future is looking bright. Whilst the school is still in financial deficit, we are very close to being full (just 2 spaces left in Reception and 1 in Dolphins) and we achieved a good set of SATs results last year. There is talk of more money for schools in Dorset and we are looking forward to finding out exactly what that means for Durweston.

The deficit was, of course, never the fault of any one person. Whilst costs were incurred due to the absence of our head teacher, the money was spent only to ensure that the right decisions were made for the school. No one has benefitted financially.

I know many of you will want to join us in thanking Mrs Wesley-Barker for everything she did for the school during her time as head teacher, and wish her the very best for her future, whatever path she chooses to take.

Christmas is coming....





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...far too quickly for my liking, but lots of the children have really enjoyed choosing gifts from the Christmas Shop this week. Antoinette (mum of Lacey-Mya in Porpoises and Brynley in Seahorses) and Claire (mum of Tiaghe in Porpoises) organised the whole thing and I can only imagine how many hours of their time it took to source the gifts, wrap them and then transform our upstairs into a Christmas Shopping Wonderland. Thank you doesn't seem to cover it. Now you'll just have to wait and see if you're going to be one of the lucky recipients....

I need also to say an enormous thank you to Dawn (mum of Faith in Dolphins and Ellierose in Seahorses) for all the work she and her team of helpers put in to organising the Indulgence evening last Tuesday. There was an amazing array of lovely things to buy and altogether it raised nearly £300 for the school. Thank you too to everyone who went along and spent some money.

Stir-Up Sunday



Did you make your Christmas puddings at the weekend? Starfish had to wait until Monday but at least that meant we all got a chance to stir the mixture and make a wish. Apparently it tasted delicious too.

More Orienteering

Ten children went to Sturminster Newton on Tuesday to compete in the last of the orienteering events this year. Yet again they did brilliantly. Out of the 12 courses we won 8 and came second on a further 3. Well done to Jayke, Mattie, Theo, Brynmor, Arron, Andrew, Lalage, Dylan, Danon and Ollie.

Out and About

Well done to both classes that went out on trips this week. Both Sharks and Dolphins had enjoyable days out and behaved impeccably. Have a look on their class blogs for photos.

If it's St Andrew's Day, then...





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...let there be pipers. Yesterday, we welcomed the Clayesmore Pipe band into school once again to celebrate St Andrew's Day.

This year, the band featured two of our former pupils, Harvey and Finlay, which made it extra special.





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And as if that wasn't enough excitement for one day, in the afternoon we all went to the village hall to watch the pantomime. All the children and many of the adults got extremely carried away as Goldilocks looked for a new act for her circus and eventually married Billy Smart. I think you had to be there....Thanks to the PTA for yet another treat.

Deck the halls

Breakfast Club had great fun on Thursday morning decorating the Christmas tree in the library. There was absolutely no restraint at all as they threw pretty much everything we had at it and,



as you can see, scant attention was paid to Health and Safety. (With apologies to David Lloyd, our Health and Safety governor).





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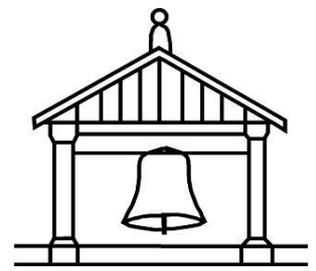
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Don't forget that we are also decorating a tree in the Blandford Parish Church this Christmas. Thanks to the people who have already brought in dressed figures. I do really need some more, so if you have a minute over the weekend, I would be grateful. What? You're busy on Saturday? Oh yes, of course! You're coming to ...

The Christmas Fair!

Preparations will be afoot even as you read this letter (assuming we get it out to you on Friday). I think you'll need to be early if you want a tree but there's going to be lots to enjoy all afternoon. The children have been busy learning jolly Christmas songs with Faye (mum of George in Seahorses) this week so we're hoping lots of them are going to be there to serenade us.

Attendance

	This week	Whole school this week	Whole school this year
Starfish	93.82% ☹️	95.47% ☹️	96.30 % ☺️
Dolphins	97.50% ☺️		
Seahorses	95.33% ☹️		
Sharks	95.33% ☹️		
Porpoises	94.84% ☹️		

Starfish have been doing so well this term but lots have fallen by the wayside with various bugs this week. Let's hope these cold days are killing off some of the bugs before they get to us. (Though my throat is feeling a bit scratchy today too....)

And so to the penultimate week of term

Football match on Monday, Netball match on Tuesday, Carol Singing round the village with Knighton House on Thursday, Durweston Carol service on Sunday – to say nothing of nativity rehearsals and all the normal stuff. No clubs next week though, apart from French and Spanish on Wednesday.

MUST make my Christmas cake sometime this weekend.

See you at the Fair

Nicola Brooke





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Dates for Your Diary

New dates added in bold

Saturday 2nd December, 12pm – 3pm

Tuesday 5th December

Wednesday 6th December

Thursday 7th December, 3.45pm

Sunday 10th December, 6pm

Monday 11th December

Tuesday 12th December, 2pm

Tuesday 12th December

Wednesday 13th December, 12pm

Wednesday 13th December, 6pm

Friday 15th December, **1pm**

Sunday 17th December, 4pm

Sunday 17th December, 6pm

Tuesday 2nd January 2018

Wednesday 3rd January 2018

Thursday 4th January 2018

PTA Christmas Fair

Flu immunisation for Reception, Years 1, 2, 3 & 4

Last French and Spanish clubs

Durweston and Knighton House – Come and join us as we carol sing around the village!

Carol Concert at St Nicholas, Durweston

Porpoises class trip to The Tank Museum

Dolphins and Seahorse Nativity

Christmas activity morning for Handy Paws and Starfish

PTA Christmas lunch for the whole school

Sharks and Porpoises Carol service

END OF TERM

Carol Concert at St Peters, Pimperne

Carol Concert at Holy Trinity Stourpaine

Staff Training day

Staff Training day

CHILDREN RETURN TO SCHOOL





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Durweston CE Primary Christmas Fair

Saturday 2nd December 2017 * 12:00 - 3:00pm

Main Events

12:15 Santa arrives - by tractor!

Come early to catch Santa arrive at the school gates.

12:30 Story time with Santa

Visit Santa's grotto and enjoy a story with the man himself! Further sessions at 1:00, 1:30 and 2pm. Spaces are limited so book in advance at the grotto (up the stairs by Dolphins classroom).

12:45 - 1:15 Mr Colours

Magic show in Starfish classroom - free entry for everyone!

1:00 & 1:30 Story time with Santa

More stories with Santa.

1:45 - 2:15 Mr Colours

Another chance to catch the free magic show in Starfish classroom.

2:00 Story time with Santa - last chance!

Santa's grotto is open for the final story of the day.

2:30 Carol Singing

Join us in the hall to listen to the uplifting sound of the children of Durweston CE Primary School singing Christmas carols, with the chance to sing along to some of the classics.

2:50 Raffle Draw

Meet in the hall to see if you have won one of our lovely raffle prizes.

Throughout the afternoon...

Have fun with our festive photobooth in the main hall, and check out the childrens activities in the Kids' Zone (Seahorses classroom).

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Primary School **PTA**





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CHRISTMAS TREE EXTRAVAGANZA

WHOLESALE PRICES, ONE DAY ONLY

4 - 5 ft tree - £30

5 - 7 ft tree - £40

7 - 8 ft tree - £50

8 ft + tree - £60

DURWESTON PRIMARY SCHOOL

CHRISTMAS FAIR

SATURDAY 2nd DECEMBER

12PM - 3PM

Come and enjoy a glass of mulled wine whilst you choose your tree

FRESHLY CUT QUALITY TREES FROM HAMPSHIRE

ALL TREES ARE NORDMANN FIR NON-DROP

